

**Remarks**

Claims 1-16 of the application are pending.

Claims 5, 6 and 12-16 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-4 and 7-11 are under Examination.

Claims 1-4 and 7-11 stand rejected.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 10 and 11 have been amended.

Claims 1-4 and 7-11 are hereby presented for review.

No new matter has been added.

Regarding the amendment to the specification, Applicant has amended the related applications section to properly identify the cited priority document.

Turning to the substantive rejections, the Examiner has rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ullman (U.S. Patent No. 1,672,355).

Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's contention and submits the following remarks in response.

The present invention as claimed in claim 11 is directed to an item of jewelry, having a jewelry component defining a disk opening. A cylindrical message disk is mounted within the disk opening, where the cylindrical message disk is rotatable, within the disk opening, so as to display an inscription thereon. Independent claims 1 and 10 contain similar cylindrical message disk elements.

In this configuration, using a cylindrical message disk is able to display a variety of text messages as well as cylindrical patterns such as Celtic bands, religious insignia or even generic drawings.

The cited prior art, namely Ullman, teaches a ring having a dice or playing card disks contained therein. As noted in column 1, lines 25 – 30, Ullman states:

“The disk or disks are provided at their peripheral edges with facets upon which valuation characters are marked or placed and these characters may be similar to the spots on dice faces or representations of the faces of playing cards.”

Further as noted in column 2, lines 64-66, Ullman states:

“The peripheral portions of the disks 7 are substantially flush with the end edges of the recess 5, as best illustrated in Figures 2 and 4.”

The user of the disk ring spins the ring against a flat surface or table on the ring's pintle. Because the disks are free to rotate, the disks spin relative to the ring.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, the disk ring shown in Ullman does not teach or suggest all of the elements of the present invention as claimed. For example there is no teaching or suggestion in Ullman that discloses a cylindrical message disk, mounted within the disk opening, rotatable, transversely to the shank, within the disk opening, so as to display an inscription thereon. In fact, as noted, Ullman specifically teaches away from using a cylindrical disk as its chief purpose is to provide a means for mimicking either dice or playing cards, a feature that could not be accomplished using the cylindrical message disk of the present invention. The use of a cylindrical message disk provides the advantage of being able to produce continuous cylindrical images such as patterns that is not available if a faceted disk is used.

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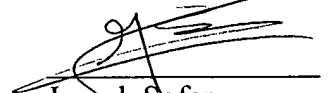
As such, Applicant submits that the cited prior art does not teach or suggest all of the elements of the present invention as claimed and respectfully request that the rejection of independent claims 1, 10 and 11 be withdrawn. Also, as claims 2-4 and 7-9 depend from claim 1, these claims should be allowed for the same reasons.

In view of the forgoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the present invention are in condition for allowance, the earliest possible notice of which is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner feels that an interview would facilitate the prosecution of this Application he is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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